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The war in the Philippines has been going on now for just one year and a half. For eighteen weary months the best blood of the United States has been drained into a repulsive and apparently bottomless swamp of guerilla fighting that leads to nothing, and we have spent on the wretched job that the Democratic party under Jefferson and Monroe needed to triple the area of the republic.

When we began war with Spain, a nation of eighteen million people with a considerable navy, an army that could call upon a million trained men, a treasury, and a completely organized government, we fought her to a standstill in three months and half, and we never put more than 30,000 men in our fighting line. To suppress 2,000,000 unorganized Tagals, in what we have never recognized as a war, we are using 65,000 men, and after eighteen months of fighting we do not seem much nearer success than we were in the beginning.

Does not this imply atrocious mismanagement somewhere? And how long is it to be kept up? Are the American people prepared to resign themselves to a permanent state of war in the Philippines, with a part of their resources in men and money annually devoured to no purpose?

Our army of occupation in the islands is equal to the entire force that a State like New Jersey could be expected to raise to resist invasion. Practically, therefore, we have subtracted a State like New Jersey from the defensive resources of the nation. That is what has been accomplished by imperialism, masquerading in the robes of expansion.

If we had given the Filipinos a voice in the management of their own country there would have been no war. If we would condescend to negotiate with them the war could be stopped even now.

In dealing with the savage Moros of the Sulu Islands, with their polygamy, slavery, and monarchy, we were willing to recognize the local authorities and customs, and by doing so we obtained the allegiance of these ferocious bandits without a blow. Why should we refuse to do as much for the civilized and Christian inhabitants of Luzon?

The London Morning Chronicle of July 30, has a long communication from its Washington correspondent, in which he calmly discusses the present political situation in this country, and the probable outcome in the coming election. From his connection with one of the leading English dailies it may reasonably be supposed that he is in close touch with the leaders of the Republican party, and therefore his conclusions are of more than ordinary interest. The political mathematician, he says, sets down 24 states as "certain" for Bryan, with a total electoral vote of 194, and 17 states as "certain" for McKinley, with a total vote of 181. Among these 17 he includes California, Illinois, Kansas, Ohio, and Wisconsin, all of which Democrats believe they can carry. Kansas went for Bryan four years ago.

The following states, the correspondent sets down as "doubtful": Colorado, Indiana, Michigan, New York, with an electoral vote of 69. "If McKinley is to win he must carry all of the States which I give him as 'certain,' plus New York, and at least one other State, while Bryan, if my calculations are correct, has only to carry New York to march with unobstructed path to the White House." He mentions many things in favor of Mc-

Kinley, including unlimited money and the vast army of Federal employes, but adds: "And yet, after giving all these things their proper value, there still remains the unknown and determining factor—the Republican vote of four years ago, which this year will vote for Bryan to rebuke imperialism."

A late dispatch from Washington says that Russia, Germany, and Japan have not declared war upon China, either separately or in concert. This statement is made upon authority of the highest character. What those nations may do within the next 48 hours or within the next fortnight, is a question which no one in Washington is prepared to answer.

A brief dispatch from Chefoo conveying a rumor current there that Russia, Germany, and Japan had joined in a declaration of war upon China aroused some interested comment among Washington officials and among diplomatic representatives of foreign governments resident here. In neither official or diplomatic circles, however, was the rumor taken seriously. No information of such action has reached either the Department of State or the legations of the governments primarily interested. That fact alone is accepted in official circles as a sufficient refutation of the rumor.

Officials of the State, War, and Navy departments were at their desks early to-day, but up to the hour of closing for the day not a word had been received from Minister Conger, Gen. Chaffee or Admiral Remy. Since the dispatch from Consul Fowler was received late last Thursday night, the department of State has received no advices from any source in China, except a brief cablegram from Minister Conger inquiring how he should route his messages. The text of the dispatch which it was explained was very brief and purely administrative in character was not made public.

The war department has received no dispatch from Gen. Chaffee, known to have come directly from him, for about a week. Cablegrams signed "Chaffee" have been received, but as they contained only lists of casualties, it is assumed they were sent by some subordinate officer in General Chaffee's name. From no official source has the department learned of the departure of 40 Americans from Peking for Tien Tsin, as reported in a special dispatch to a London newspaper under date of Aug. 19.

Negro Help in Cotton Mills.

A new company has been organized within the past few days at Charleston, S. C., for the purpose of erecting and operating a cotton mill. It is said that some of the largest stockholders in the proposed company are also large holders of stock in the Vesta cotton mill of the same place, which is now being partly operated by colored labor. One of the promoters of this new company stated recently that they would demonstrate that a modern cotton mill could be successfully operated in the city of Charleston by white labor.

A little over three years ago the directors of the Charleston mills reached a decision, the result of which was the employment of colored operatives in the mill. At the end of the year no satisfactory progress had been made, but instead, the owners were out several thousands of dollars. The company was again reorganized and the name changed to the Vesta mills, colored help, of course, being continued. The officials of the mill still claim that this class of help is a success, but when it is remembered that at the end of three years the mill is not running and never has run to its full capacity, and that what machinery is running has never turned off its full production, it will be very plainly seen that the days of the negro as a cotton mill operative are numbered. Furthermore, if the operation of the Vesta mill by negroes has been a success why should these same parties who are interested in the new company decide in favor of white labor, when such always has been a scarce article in towns like Charleston? Their action is itself an admission of the unsuitability of the African race to the duties of a cotton mill operative.

In Charleston there are about 25,000 negroes, yet it is said to be almost impossible to obtain a sufficient number to operate this one mill. The average cotton mill operative must be such as can be depended upon at all times, and it goes without saying that the negro is not of this class. The experiment of the Vesta mill owners, has been a costly one, and it should be a warning to all those

who have at any time supposed that the negro is an operative in a cotton mill would ever be a success.—Textile Excelsior.

British Losses in South Africa.

The report of the casualties of the British forces in South Africa, issued by the war office on the 21st of last month, shows that there has been up to that time no fewer than 8,487 deaths since the beginning of the war, as follows: Killed in action 2,731, died of disease, 4,867, died in captivity 85, accidental deaths 72, total deaths, 8,487. Of the dead 479 were officers and 8,008 non-commissioned officers and privates. To this grim total must be added 2,218 for the missing and prisoners deducting the prisoners who were released after the fall of Pretoria. There then is a fearfully large addition for the soldiers sent home as invalids, who numbered at the date of the return no fewer than 23,655 men. The drain upon the strength of the British army through these various losses amounted to 34,360 men. It was further estimated that the sick and wounded men in hospital at different points in South Africa numbered 18,000 in round figures. This addition brings the aggregate of the losses sustained by the British to 52,360 men.

India's Awful Plague.

New York Tribune. Sima, June 28.—It is the misfortune of this country that she has been afflicted with the most terrible calamity of which there is any record in her thousand years of history at the very moment when events of a most portentous character are going on in other parts of the world; events which serve to distract the attention of potential helpers from India's many woes. The pronounced failure of last year's monsoon rains, the onset of this unexampled famine, made itself apparent about September of last year, or at the very moment when affairs were rapidly drifting into a highly critical condition between England and the South African Republics.

In October we knew that we were in for what was probably the worst famine, the most acute distress the country had ever seen. But simultaneously with this knowledge came the intelligence that war had broken out at the Cape and that the first engagements had actually taken place. In November and December last the distress throughout India was most bitter, hundreds of half starved people who months before had sold their scanty clothing in order to buy food, perishing from the bitter cold of the Indian winter. But, again, this was just the period of the war, the period of Britain's reverses, which drew the attention of the whole world away from India toward the tragedy being enacted in South Africa. And so it has been all along.

The intense heat and the gradual shrinking up of the water supply, together with the ripening of the melon crop, a fruit which the people are at all times prone to eagerly and injudiciously devour, all these causes combined generated an outbreak of cholera of an appalling character. Camps which one day contained 10,000 people, the next day only held 2,000. The grim death had broken out, the people had fled before it. They had fled into the dreary parched up jungle, the sun-baked fields, in all or any directions, without food, without even water. Many of them perished of starvation by the wayside. The whole country was for days littered with corpses. Many of them already had within them the germs of the cholera, and died, in frightful agonies, in the space of two or three hours. The corpses lay for days unburied and unburnt, affording meals to vultures and jackals.

Meanwhile all the resources of the administration, though strained to the utmost, were hopelessly inadequate to cope with such a situation. It is all the government can do to deal with the distress when the people are collected in camps numbering thousands. When they are spread in twos and threes over an immense tract of country, timid and demoralized by the cholera fiend, it is utterly impossible to save them. All that could be done was done. The officers of the government worked themselves to the bone. The missionaries and other voluntary helpers, toiled nobly to the same end. Yet for several weeks the mortality in Gujerat alone from cholera was at the rate of 4,000 people a week. That from actual starvation is not known, but was undoubtedly heavy. Thus in a single week the deaths in one portion of one afflicted province were more than have been caused by the Boers in eight long months of war.

If Bryan is Elec.ed.

A question was recently addressed by a Republican to the

Bo ton Post, and to this the latter replied with much sincerity, although it has not hitherto been regarded as a strictly regular Democratic organ.

Suppose Bryan were elected President, what would happen? What sort of a President would we have in him?

In the first place, we should have a thoroughly honest man in the White House. This is a fact conceded by Mr. Bryan's political foes as well as by his political friends. And it is more than the Republicans can say of every candidate for President put up by their party.

We should have a President of unquestioned ability. Mr. Bryan has shown himself a man of parts. He is not only a brilliant orator, he has demonstrated his possession of the qualities of statesmanship.

We should have a President who is personally unselfish. Mr. Bryan is devoted to principles more than to the advancement of his individual interests. He is a broad-minded man.

We should have for President a man of tact and good humor. Mr. Bryan would enter the White House without enemies to punish or grudges to satisfy. He carries no "knife."

And touching the politics and issues on which this election turn, we should have a President devoted to the Republic as well as against the imperial theory of government; to the protection of the interests of the great body of the people as against monopolistic cabals.

We should have a President who has pledged himself to what we at the East regard as a mistaken theory of finance, but who would be unable in the four years of his term to put his theory in practice in any form.

All in all, even from the Republican point of view, there have been many candidates, both Republican and Democratic whose election to the Presidency would be properly regarded with greater apprehension than that of William Jennings Bryan.

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Octagon Soap is the best. I have it.

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When a man or woman has on a nice fitting and stylish shoe it sets off their whole apparel. The growing demand for this great Southern shoe, manufactured by the Eagle Shoe Company, Fredericksburg, Va., shows that, like the great Washington at whose home it is made, "It is first in peace, first in war, and first in the hearts of its countryman," and can not lie.

The Southern Trade Record, of Cincinnati, Ohio, has his to say concerning the Eagle shoe:

"The shoe-making trade as it now exists is composed of a series of specialists who devote their attention to making some particular part of the boot or shoe thereby become wonderfully quick and expert in their respective specialties.

"In this connection the industrial editor of this journal has recently received an unusual large number of inquiries regarding shoe manufacturers, a many of which had special reference to the foremost and most artistic shoe manufacturer in the United States.

"Now after a careful investigation along these lines, after opening up a correspondence with and interviewing as many as were available of the foremost shoe dealers in the country, there was a general consensus of opinion in favor of the Eagle Shoe Company, Fredericksburg, Va. This firm is unquestionably among the foremost shoe manufacturers in the United States. This is no idle or vain boast, but an absolute fact, and in making this statement we do not fear any successful contradiction.

"They only use the best grades of leather from the best hides from the best tanneries in America and Europe, and employ exclusively the most skilled of expert labor. The lasts upon which these shoes are made are not only the latest styles, but in the main are the evolution and development from the experience of years, gradually improving until they have almost reached perfection.

"The writer, who has worn the shoes made by this firm, for years would have none other, and on various occasions, when not convenient to be had otherwise, orders them to be sent by express from his shoe dealer, to whatever point his duties as a writer and a correspondent may call him. He finds the shoes to wear better, are handsomer in design, and more comfortable and more economical than any other on the market. In consequence he can not emphasize the matter too strongly and indorse the opinion of the experts quoted above, in saying that the firm of Eagle Shoe Company, of Fredericksburg, Va., manufacture the best shoes in the United States.

"We might add in conclusion that this journal has no interest, direct or indirect, in this firm, who are not advertisers nor even subscribers to this paper. The investigation was made at the request of many of our subscribers, and the result published solely for their benefit, and to them alone we are responsible."

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